

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

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**EINGEGANGEN****16. Nov. 2006****Erl.....**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year)<br>09 November 2006 (09.11.2006) | <b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>  |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>RL 610 WO                |  |
| International application No.<br>PCT/EP2005/002860                | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>17 March 2005 (17.03.2005) |
| Applicant<br>A. RAYMOND & CIE et al                               |  |

**1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.**

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

**2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.**

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

**3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).**

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO<br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer<br><b>Agnes Wittmann-Regis</b> |
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>RL 610 WO   | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See item 4 below  |   |
| International application No.<br>PCT/EP2005/002860   | International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>17 March 2005 (17.03.2005) | Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>22 April 2004 (22.04.2004) |
| International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated)<br>See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237 |   |   |
| Applicant<br>A. RAYMOND & CIE  |   |   |

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I   | Basis of the report   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II             | Priority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III            | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV             | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V   | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI             | Certain documents cited   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII           | Certain observations on the international application   |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO<br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland<br><br>Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 | Date of issuance of this report<br>01 November 2006 (01.11.2006)            |
|   | Authorized officer<br><br>Agnes Wittmann-Regis<br><br>e-mail: pt06@wipo.int |

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

PCT

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| To:  |   | Date of mailing<br>(day/month/year)                 | <b>See Form PCT/ISA/210<br/>(sheet 2)</b> |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br><b>RL 610 WO</b>  |   | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b><br>See paragraph 2 below  |   |
| International application No.<br><b>PCT/EP2005/002860</b>  | International filing date (day/month/year)<br><b>17.03.2005</b> | Priority date (day/month/year)<br><b>22.04.2004</b> |   |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC<br><b>F16L37/14, F16L37/12</b> |   |   |   |
| Applicant<br><b>A. RAYMOND &amp; CIE</b>   |   |   |   |

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I      Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II      Priority
- ☐ Box No. III      Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV      Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V      Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI      Certain documents cited
- ☒ Box No. VII      Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII      Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No.                          | Telephone No.      |

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002860

Box No. I      Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐ a sequence listing

☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐ in written format

☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐ contained in the international application as filed.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002860

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability:  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

**1. Statement**

|                               |                   |     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims <u>1-6</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims _____      | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims <u>1-6</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims _____      | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims <u>1-6</u> | YES |
|                               | Claims _____      | NO  |

**2. Citations and explanations:**

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: EP-A-1 158 236 (RASMUSSEN GMBH) 28 November  
2001 (2001-11-28)

D2: US-A-5 423 577 (KETCHAM ET AL) 13 June 1995  
(1995-06-13)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

2.1 Document D1 is considered to be the closest prior  
art in relation to the subject matter of claim 1.  
It discloses (the references between parentheses  
refer to this document):

a coupling for a fluid conducting system with a  
coupling part (2) into which an insertion portion  
of a counterpart (1) can be inserted, and with a  
locking part (5) which is attached movably to the  
coupling part (2) and has an arresting structure  
(22) which, in an arresting position (see figure  
4), interacts with a complementary structure (3)  
designed on the insertion portion for locking the  
counterpart (1) and the coupling part (2),

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002860

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

- a catch structure (22) being present in the region of the free ends of the side portions (6),
- the coupling part (2) being designed with guide recesses (4) lying opposite one another,

from which the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that

- a longitudinally extending arresting web is designed in each case on the inner sides, facing the coupling part, of the side portions,
- the arresting webs engage in the guide recesses,
- the coupling part is in the region of one end of the guide recesses provided with an arresting structure of complementary design to the catch structure.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of simplifying the construction of the coupling.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

- although it is true that an arresting structure has been provided in D1, it is located on an additional element (securing bush (9)) which is inserted into the coupling part (2),
- it is only the proposed construction of the

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002860

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

locking part (with the arresting webs which engage in the guide recesses) and of the coupling part (with a complementary arresting structure in the region of one end of the guide recesses) which makes it possible to dispense with the securing bush. Even if a person skilled in the art were to attempt to achieve this aim, he would have been able to shift the arresting structure into the region of the openings according to the teaching of D2 (see figures 1, 2) but would still have had no indication of a locking part with the arresting webs which engage in the guide recesses.

3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Claims 2-6 are dependent on claim 1 and thus likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002860

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

- 1 Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite document D1 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.
- 2 Pursuant to PCT Rule 10.2, terminology and signs are to be used consistently throughout the application. This requirement is not met owing to the use of the expressions:
  - "catch structure", "raised portions" for the same feature (26, 27) (claims 1 and 3)
  - "hold-free structure", "depressions" for the same feature (26, 27) (claims 1 and 3).